

WDC (Adv)

1. As the result of a conference called by the A.O. of S., G-2, War Department, on 29 August 1945, the Washington Document Center was designated to be the central depository for all Japanese documents of interest to U.S. and Allied agencies. It was further decided to send an advanced detachment to Japan to assist the Theater document agency in the screening, selection and transmission of documents to the WDC.
2. By informal teletype conference between ATIS and MIS favorable Theater reaction to the sending of the advanced detachment was indicated. It was agreed that the advanced detachment would greatly relieve ATIS from the burden of screening and selecting material for Washington agencies.
3. By radio No. CA51641 dated 3 September 1945, CINCPAC requested information as to the strength of the proposed WDC advanced detachment. By radio No. W59356 dated 5 September 1945 the War Department advised that the T/O would be approximately 100 bodies. By radio No. WX64635 dated 15 September 1945, the War Department requested permission to send advance party of 6 officers to lay groundwork for WDC(Adv). By radio No. CH15713 dated 28 September 1945 CINCPAC granted permission for the advance party to proceed.
4. By cable No. ZAX8582 dated 9 November 1945, CINCPAC authorized the remaining portion of the WDC Advanced Detachment to proceed to the Theater.
5. The WDC(Adv) is now here and in full operation under ATIS and have teams working with the 6th and 8th Armies. By TWX Conference held 13 November 1945, Lt. Col. R. V. Smith was appointed as C.O. of the WDC(Adv) in addition to his duties as a member of the WDICC Liaison Committee.